

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY**

NOTICE TO THE BAR

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT
TO
LOCAL CIVIL RULE 301.1(c) and
APPENDIX Q “GUIDELINES FOR MEDIATION”**

Notice is hereby given to the Bar and all interested parties that the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey proposes to amend Local Civil Rule 301.1(c) and Appendix Q.

The proposed amendments to Local Civil Rule 301.1(c) to read as follows, with new text underlined:

(c) Compensation of Mediators

Each mediator designated to serve by the Chief Judge under L.Civ. R. 301.1 (a) shall be compensated ~~\$250~~ \$300 an hour for service in each civil action referred to mediation, which compensation shall be borne equally by the parties; notwithstanding this provision, the first ~~six~~ three hours of service shall be without compensation. Where all parties select as a mediator a person not designated as a panel mediator under L. Civ. R. 301.1 (a), the parties and the mediator may, by written agreement, fix the amount and terms of the mediator’s compensation.

The proposed amendments to Section IV of Appendix Q, “Guidelines for Mediation” to read as follows, with new text underlined:

IV. Compensation of Mediators

A. A mediator who is selected by the court or by the parties from the panel of mediators designated by the Chief Judge shall be compensated at the rate of ~~\$250~~ \$300 an hour except for the first ~~six~~ three hours of his or her time, which shall not be compensated. The time incurred by a mediator in reviewing the submissions of the parties shall be included in the calculation of his or her time. The compensation, which shall be paid equally by the parties, may not be varied by the consent of the parties.

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Commentary. The compensation rate for certified mediators under Local Civil Rule 301.1(c) and Section IV(A) of the Guidelines for Mediation has been set at \$250 an hour since 2001. The Board of Judges proposed to amend this local rule and the guideline to increase the hourly compensation rate to \$300 per hour and to reduce the number of uncompensated hours

provided by mediators designated by the Chief Judge from six hours to three hours.

Comments regarding this proposal are to be submitted within 30 days of publication to:

William T. Walsh, Clerk
United States District Court
Martin Luther King, Jr. Federal Building
and Courthouse
P.O. Box 419
Newark, NJ 07101

FOR THE COURT
Garrett E. Brown, Jr.
Chief Judge